(b) and (c) "Water" being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to provide people with contamination free water. Much work has been done by the States to have alternative water supply source in areas affected by water quality problems.

The Department of Drinking Water Supply, under the Ministry of Rural Development, is rendering financial and technical assistance to the States for tackling water quality problems in rural areas on 75:25 funding pattern between Central Government and State Governments. With effect from 01.04.1998, powers have been delegated to the State Governments for sanctioning and implementings projects for tackling quality problem. 15% of financial assistance to State Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) have been earmarked for tackling quality problem.

Financial assistance for reclamation of water logged

4320. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of proposals of State Governments seeking financial assistance for reclamation of water logged areas are pending with the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for keeping the proposals pending; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Central Government to clear those pending proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Clearance of Pench Vrihad project in Madhya Pradesh

*4321. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that "Pench Vrihad" project of Chhindwada district in Madhya Pradesh is pending with the Central Water Commission;

(b) if so, by when the clearance for investment in this project is likely to be granted;

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* Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is also a fact that this project is assisted by Indo-German bilateral (development) cooperation; and

(d) by when this project is likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The detailed project report of Pench Diversion Project in Chhindwara district of Madhya Pradesh submitted to Central Water Commission by the Government of Madhya Pradesh is under appraisal. After establishing the tech no-economic viability of the project, the project proposal will be put up to the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources for acceptance and thereafter for investment approval by the Planning Commission. The clearance of the project depends upon the promptness with which the State Government comply with the observations of the Central appraising, agencies.

(c) and (d) The above said project is not assisted under Indo-German Bilateral Development Cooperation Programme. However, the Government of Madhya Pradesh have identified project including Pench Project for consideration under Indo-German Bilateral Development Cooperation. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has been advised to furnish necessary details for processing the case for seeking external funding.

Ganga water plans

[]4322. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the water of Ganga has become so contaminated that Government have to spend lakh of rupees daily to make it potable;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any plan for its permanent solution, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY.OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (d) On . the basis of comprehensive survey of Ganga Basin carried out the Central Pollution Control Board, the Ministry of Environment & Forests implemented 'Ganga Action Plan, Phase-I' with sanctioned cost of Rs. 462 crore in 1984. The Ganga Action Plan, Phase-II also taken up in two stages in 1994 and 1996 respectively by Ministry of Environment & Forests. The

[] Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.